

LITTLE FRANCE

A ROMANCE OF THE DAYS WHEN "THE GREAT LORD HAWKE" WAS KING OF THE SEA

BY CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY

Author of "Commodore Paul Jones," "Reuben James," "For the Freedom of the Sea," etc.

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CHAPTER XXVIII.

CONFLANS IS OUT.

WHEN Hawke read his dispatches and learned therein of Grafton's services, with Saunders' commendation of them and his recommendation, he forthwith surprised the young American. The former captain of the Torbay had died a few days before and no one had yet been designated to command her, fortunately for Grafton, for Hawke immediately appointed him to the ship. To anticipate, it was an appointment which met with the favor of the ship's crew and the junior officers, with many of whom Grafton had previously served. He had been first lieutenant of the Torbay, in fact, in other days, and he was therefore thoroughly familiar with the qualities of the ship. He brought no one with him to his new command save Jabez Slocum.

While waiting for the assembling of his captains in the cabin of the Royal George, Hawke had sunk the commander in the friend in his intercourse with Grafton. Indeed, he had always taken a fatherly interest in that young sailor. From him he heard again, and at full length now, the details of that marvelous Quebec campaign. From him he also learned the story of his romantic love affair. He entered with the zest of a boy into the spirit of the hardy and daring ascent of the dark tower and the exciting adventures which followed upon it.

"My lad," he exclaimed at last, "if your wife is on the French fleet you shall have her, by Heaven, if I have to sink every ship in the squadron until we get her!"

"I have no doubt that she will be with them, admiral," answered Grafton. "If I know the Marquis de Chabot-Rohan, he is not a man to say things and then fail to do them. I imagine she will be on Le Thesee. That is the ship of the Comte de Kersaint, who was betrothed to her, you know, before I married her."

He was as yet so little accustomed to his new relationship that he stumbled over the significant word.

"Yes," said the admiral, "I have heard that he is one of the best seamen and officers in the French navy."

"Is true, sir. I can bear testimony to it. He captured me in the Boxer with this same ship five years ago, and I got to know him when. He knew my father, too, and once fought him. The Renomme and the Shirley, you know. He's a fighter. But if I can get alongside of him with the old Torbay, sir, I think we can show him a thing or two."

"I know you can," added Hawke, smiling, "and I shall do my best to help you and give you a chance. As soon as we get out of the channel we'll spread apart. I have 23 ships of the line and two frigates here, and we ought to cover miles of the horizon. This morning, Conflans will probably get away at the same time we do. I intend to push hard for Belleisle. I can't afford to wait for Saunders, though 'tis a generous offer he makes me. By the way," he added, as a sudden thought struck him, "I must send a frigate out at once to warn Duff. There is a squadron of one capital and four 50-gun ships, besides some frigates, down there. I hope 'tis not too late."

As the admiral reached over to strike a bell on the table, Grafton interrupted him.

"Pardon, sir, Edward," he exclaimed, "I've already taken the liberty of doing that."

"You have?" exclaimed the admiral in astonishment. "When? How?"

"Why, sir, yesterday afternoon we overhauled the frigate Vengeance, Capt. Nightingale, and I told him what I had learned, and at my suggestion he agreed to beat down for Quiberon and warn Commodore Duff. I was to come on here and tell you, and as we were sure as to your action regarding was to tell you that you'd be hard on the heels of Monsieur de Conflans."

"You have done well, exceedingly well, young man."

"Yes, sir, thank you, sir," murmured Grafton. "Trained in your own school, sir, you know."

"Well, you've been an apt pupil, Grafton, and I'm proud of you. If you do as well with the Torbay you'll have a flag before you know it."

the same position to harbor. I want a bright lookout kept for Conflans, too."

(To be continued.)



Miss Chance—Do you think there is any music in Miss Serecher? Mr. Wise—There must be. I haven't heard any come out yet.

Secret of Long Youth.

Simple diet, plain living, active outdoor work or walking, and absence of worry, give conditions that will develop the best physical and moral possibilities within one. We are all prone to exhaust nerve force over petty cares. We get excited if the rooms are not properly dusted; we put too much of ourselves into our household work; we do not want to learn to simplify; we do not always take the "forty winks" early in the afternoon. These are some of the causes of age, and we can avoid them just as we can learn to sometimes be idle and at all times be peaceful.—Housekeeper.

Object to Census.

The Boers resent an attempt to take a Transvaal census. They consider it an intrusion into their private affairs.



POP HAD AN AUTOMOBILE. Tommy—Say, pop, what's a pedes-trian? Pop—He is one of those fellows who is always kicking against automobiles.

Curious Spanish Courtship. Counting Spain is conducted on court as a rule. The Spanish girl is almost always attended by a young man who is known as her novio, and who squires her on her walks, although the courtship seldom ends in marriage. The young lady is always accompanied by her mother or a maid, as well as by the novio. So long as this state of things continues the girl is loyal and obedient to her gallant.

Stanley's Faith. Several weeks ago, before his illness assumed a fatal aspect, he was speaking of his famous expedition of 1871, when he used the words descriptive of central Africa, "illimitable day and illimitable night." One who was present asked him if he did not feel unusually impressed by the awful grandeur of the surroundings, to which he replied: "I know there was a great power above me."



AT ATLANTIC CITY. "They say there's a fool born every minute." "It's a pity they don't die off as rapidly."

A WOMAN TO BE PRETTY

Must Have Luxuriant and Glossy Hair, No Matter What Color.

The finest contour of a female face, the sweetest smile of a female mouth, loses something if the hair is crowned with scant hair. Scant and falling hair, it is now known, is caused by a parasite that burrows into the scalp to the root of the hair, where it saps the vitality. The little white scales the germ throws up in burrowing are called dandruff. To cure dandruff permanently, then, and to stop falling hair, that germ must be killed. Newbro's Herpicide, an entirely new result of the chemical laboratory, destroys the dandruff germ, and, of course, stops the falling hair, and prevents baldness. Sold by leading druggists. Send 10c. in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich.

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Our Father's Patience. Father: I prayed that Thou wouldst bless my steps, yet looking back I find I have not my feet astray. With shame I find my face would hide. The way was plain enough to see, But like a headless child at play, My father led me by the hand astray. Although Thy voice kept calling me, And Thy sweet patience lingers yet; Can evening penitential tears Wash out the errors of past years? And love my waywardness forget? Father: by faith to Thee I cling, When I in heaven behold Thy face, With whom I'll share Thy wondrous grace With whom I long since I loved to sing.—Rev. W. T. Sleeper.

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Free Press in Fact. The Prince of Montenegro has no use for libel laws to restrain the newspapers, and editors are not punished for contempt of court. This does not arise so much from the liberality of the ruler's principle as from the fact that he is himself the owner and editor of the only newspaper published in his dominions. The paper is called Glas Znanost, which is interpreted to mean "The Voice of the Montenegrin."

Ascertain Your Feelings. Schopenhauer said: "If you want to find out your real opinion of any one, observe the impression made upon you by the first sight of a letter from him."



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Notice to Stockholders. Public notice is hereby given that the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Illinois Central Railroad company will be held at the company's office in Chicago, Illinois, on Wednesday, October 12, 1904, at twelve o'clock noon.

To permit personal attendance at said meeting there will be issued to each holder of one or more shares of the capital stock of the Illinois Central Railroad company, as registered on the books of the company at the close of business on Tuesday, September 27, 1904, who is of full age, a ticket enabling him, or her, to travel free over the company's lines from the station on the Illinois Central railroad nearest to his or her registered address to Chicago and return, such ticket to be good for the journey to Chicago only during the four days immediately preceding and the day of the meeting, and for the return journey from Chicago only on the day of the meeting and the four days immediately following when properly countersigned and stamped during business hours—that is to say, between 9:00 a. m. and 5:00 p. m.—in the office of the assistant secretary, Mr. W. G. Bruen, in Chicago. Such ticket may be obtained by any holder of stock, registered as above, on application, in writing, to the president of the company in Chicago. Each application must state the full name and address of the stockholder exactly as given in his or her certificate of stock together with the number and date of such certificate. No more than one person will be carried free in respect to any one holding of stock as registered on the books of the company. A. G. HACKSTAFF, Secretary.



Special Homeseekers' rates to the west and southwest. Tickets sold first and third Tuesday of each month from June to December, 1904. Elmer Smith, Pass. & Ticket Agent, Cairo, Ill.

STATE OF ILLINOIS. In the Alexander County Circuit Court, October term, A. D. 1904. In re: Charles F. Schmitt, Plaintiff, vs. Nellie Blatteau, Defendant. The above named defendant, who is hereby notified that she is required to appear in said court on the 10th day of October, next, to answer to the complaint filed in said court, and to show cause why she should not be held to the payment of the debt claimed by the plaintiff, is hereby notified that she is required to appear in said court on the 10th day of October, next, to answer to the complaint filed in said court, and to show cause why she should not be held to the payment of the debt claimed by the plaintiff.

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